

housing in the town area was substandard (228 of 671 units), and 39% was substandard in the fringe area (188 of 479 units).

The land use survey, supplemented by interviews with business and industrial leaders, indicates that housing is an important factor in Maiden's potential for development and is a factor that should receive attention. Much of the housing in Maiden proper, for example, is old and at the point that it is somewhat expensive to repair and maintain. New housing is fairly scarce, since there are few local builders and no large "project" type developments in the way of subdivision. Rental housing is likewise hard to find, and there are very few apartment buildings.

Several people contacted in the course of the interviews indicated that individuals within their organizations would move to Maiden from points from which they are now commuting if ample housing were available. With the employment, good location in respect to the large centers of the state, and nearness to such facilities as Lake Norman, the leaders of Maiden would do well to promote housing construction in a variety of price ranges. Zoning, subdivision regulations, and building codes can be used to insure that residential development is soundly located and constructed. A Housing Commission appointed by the Board of Aldermen is one possibility of promoting more residential construction. Such a commission could bring together representatives from the builders, developers, real estate and financial operations and encourage and promote needed construction.